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23443 S. Hays Rd.
Manteca, CA 95337
March 5, 1997

Lester Snow and BDAC Members
1415 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Lester,

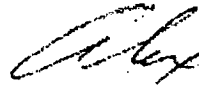
I am writing in response to your February 28 response to my February 3 letter to you and the BDAC.

When you say "we propose" and "we believe" I assume that "we" is the staff, since the BDAC has not resolved these issues. You say that you don't believe that the proposed approach "prescribes a controversial level of non-discretionary compliance," but the fact is that it is controversial within BDAC.

You criticize stakeholders that "fail to see the need to provide credible assurance...." of what amounts to complying with "reasonable use". The issue here is who decides what is reasonable. The government is neither a qualified nor an appropriate judge of every such decision. How intrusive should the government be in making all our decisions, and how capable are they in determining what is reasonable in complex situations? It is easy to decide that other people should be controlled by the government, but we all resist intrusive regulation of our freedom to use our own judgement in controlling our own lives. The question is where do we draw the line?

Other issues are what do we mean by a properly regulated water transfer market? Can more efficient use go very far toward accommodating millions more water users and food consumers and, if not, how should this affect our program? If the Water Use Efficiency Work Group "will not be the appropriate forum to begin discussions on watershed management" for increased multiple use and reuse of water, what is the appropriate forum?

Sincerely,



Alex Hildebrand